

# CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CREEKS RESTORATION/WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

# **REGULAR MEETING**

May 9, 2007

# DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM, 630 GARDEN STREET

# **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Jordan called the meeting to order at 5:37pm.

# **ROLL CALL**

Committee members present: Chair Jordan, Daniel Hochman, Bruce Klobucher, Jeff Phillips, Daniel Wilson

Committee members absent: George Weber, Lee Moldaver

Liaison members present: County Project Clean Water Liaison Rob Almy, Councilmember Iya Falcone, Park and Recreation Commissioner Beebe Longstreet

Liaison members absent: Planning Commissioner John Jostes

Staff present: Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Jill E. Zachary, Acting Creeks Supervisor George Johnson

# **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion:

Committee members Wilson/Klobucher to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 11, 2007.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote.

# **AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS**

None.

# **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No one wished to speak.

#### COMMITTEE MEMBER AND STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Jordan reported that he attended an IRWMP meeting, and the final plan will be complete in June.

Chair Jordan reminded the Committee about upcoming community events:

May 12 – BioBlitz at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

May 20 - Steelhead Festival at Stearns Wharf

June 2 – Big Dog Festival at Chase Palm Park

### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

# 8. a Subject: Clean Beaches Initiative Proposition Grant 50 for the Laguna Watershed Study and Water Quality Improvement Feasibility Analysis

# Recommendation:

That the Committee concur with the staff recommendation to submit a full proposal for Clean Beaches Initiative grant funding.

# Documents:

Staff Report – May 2007 Power Point Presentation – May 2007

# Speakers:

George Johnson, Acting Creeks Supervisor

# Committee Questions/Discussion:

The Committee asked questions regarding how the project was selected for funding application versus other Creeks Division projects.

Mr. Johnson reported that the site was identified by the Bacterial Reduction Study; the Creeks Division has not yet analyzed the Laguna Watershed; and, the CBI Task Force requested the project be submitted for funding.

Ms. Zachary reported that the project has been in the Capital Program for a number of years but the Creeks Division hasn't had the staff resources to pursue it; CBI is very interested in improving water quality at beaches; Laguna is the most urbanized watershed in the City, with identified problems related to the presence of human material; and, that there could be up to four subsequent projects coming from this study, and possible ongoing funding for those projects.

### Motion:

Committee members Hochman/Klobucher to concur with Staff Recommendation to submit the final Clean Beaches Initiative Proposition 50 grant application for the Laguna Watershed Study and Water Quality Improvement Feasibility Analysis.

### Vote:

Unanimous voice vote.

# 8. b Subject: FY 2008/2009 Proposed Budget

# Recommendation:

That the Committee recommend approval of the Creeks Division FY 2008/2009 Budget to the Park and Recreation Commission and the City Council.

# Documents:

Staff Report – May 2007 Power Point Presentation – May 2007

# Speakers:

Jill E. Zachary, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director

# Committee Questions/Discussion

Mr. Hochman reported on the Budget Subcommittee Meeting held on May 1, 2007 and the Subcommittee's discussion related to staffing, Capital and reserves.

The Committee asked questions related to \$100,000 budgeted for Microbial Source Tracking; the \$8,000 budgeted for Arroyo Burro Estuary Plant Replacement/Irrigation; the \$110,000 budgeted for the purchase and installation of Catch Basin Filters/Debris Screens; and, whether the Watershed Technical Assistance Program should receive continual funding.

Ms. Zachary reported the Water Quality Subcommittee will assist with Microbial Source Tracking; the amount budgeted for Arroyo Burro Plant Replacement/Irrigation was anticipated and covers a rough estimate of irrigation costs as well as a phased plant replacement; funds are allocated for the Streets Division to clean Catch Basin Filters/Debris Screens; and, there is \$225,000 budgeted for the Watershed Technical Assistance Program until the program is further developed.

The Committee asked questions regarding forming an endowment to cover restoration project maintenance; GIS Capital; reduction of Creek Cleanup funding; the possibility of providing an incentive for property

owners to allow invasive plant removal on private property; and, the possibility of placing a cap on street sweeping costs paid by the Creeks Division.

Ms. Zachary reported that ongoing maintenance costs are kept in mind when planning restoration projects; GIS Capital covers a portion of citywide startup costs for GIS hardware and software; a new vendor was selected for Creek Cleanups, providing service at a lower cost; vendor is given a list of cleanup locations each Monday and does on-call cleanups as needed; a capital account for restoration maintenance would be appropriate for replacement of parts or in the event a rebuild was necessary; most landowners look forward to vegetation work as it enhances their property; and, that citation revenue provides funds for street sweeping.

Ms. Zachary suggested the Committee receive an update from Public Works regarding street sweeping.

Mr. Hochman suggested a capital budget work session.

### Motion:

Committee Members Hochman/Wilson to recommend approval of the Creeks Division FY0809 Budget to the Park and Recreation Commission and the City Council.

Vote:

Unanimous voice vote.

### ADJOURNMENT

Motion:

Committee Members Hochman/Klobucher to adjourn.

Chair Jordan adjourned the meeting at 6:55p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill E. Zachary
Assistant Parks and Recreation Director